



Lao People's Democratic Republic

Statement by

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Permanent Mission of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the
United Nations

at the General Debate of the Second Committee of the 74th Session of
the United Nations General Assembly

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(Please check against delivery)

Thank you Mr. Chair,

1. At the outset, let me congratulate you and members of the bureaus on your election, and assure you of my delegation support and cooperation.
2. My delegation aligns itself with the statements made by the distinguished representatives of the State of Palestine, Thailand, Malawi and Paraguay on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, ASEAN, LDCs and LLDCs respectively.

Mr. Chair,

3. This year, a number of high-level meetings, inter alia, the SDG Summit, provided a timely opportunity to review progress made thus far in implementing the 2030 Agenda and its 17 SDGs. My delegation welcomes the adoption of the political declaration at the Summit, especially our call for accelerated actions, which we have committed to mobilize adequate and well-directed financing in order to close the financing gap for the Sustainable Development Goals.
4. My delegation also welcomes the convening of Climate Action Summit and appreciate all the national announcements and new initiatives of all the member state –led coalitions and multi-stakeholders with a common vision of reducing the life-threatening impacts of climate change, especially in those vulnerable groups of countries. The Lao PDR, like many other countries, experienced such impacts this year. The country encountered unexpected heavy rainfalls as a result of tropical storm Podul, causing widespread flooding and significant damage to infrastructure, agriculture and livelihood of the people. In this regard, we sincerely thank development partners, UN agencies and other stakeholders for their continued supports to help our government responding to the needs of the affected communities and people to recover quickly from the recent disasters.

Mr. Chair,

5. While the global economy has witnessed an upturn, and achieved growth of 3 percent over the past two years, trade tensions have affected the growth projection of international trade governed by the ruled-based multilateral trading system, which is expected to play a key role to foster the global trade as an engine for inclusive economic growth and poverty eradication as well as an important source to support development and 2030 agenda.

6. These Global economic uncertainties compounded with climate change, natural disasters and widening income-inequality within and among countries threaten to severely disrupt global economic activities and cause significant negative impacts on a long-term development agenda. To put it simply, economic growth remains unequally allocated across countries and regions and fails to reach those that need it most, in particular the most vulnerable groups of countries, namely, LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDs, which require higher level of investment to meet their specific needs and challenges in their development efforts as well as to support the implementation of SDGs. Therefore, the international community should give special attention to the development needs of these groups of countries so that they will not be left behind. My delegation appreciates many delegation, which recognized special needs of countries in special situation since this morning.

Mr. Chair,

7. To support sustainable development, we are of the view that a revitalized and resilient multilateralism as well as enhancement of regional and international cooperation are needed. As such, the reforms of the United Nations and other international organizations, including the international financial institutions should be carried out in an inclusive, open, transparent, predictable and democratic manner with a view to addressing rising inequalities within and among countries and other global challenges. Against this backdrop, we welcome the operationalization of the repositioned UNDS, and hope it can respond effectively to development needs and priorities of member states with particular attention to the countries in special situations, which are facing lingering vulnerabilities and external shocks. In this context, we reiterate our view that development must remain at the core, be an integral part and a top priority for the United Nations and all member states while promoting international peace, security and human rights.

Mr. Chair,

8. Allow me to conclude by reaffirming our strong commitment to effectively implement the global development agendas and pursue the path of sustainable development, we look forwards to constructive and fruitful deliberations of the second committee.

I thank you, Mr. Chair.